

Date: 28th May 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/014060/W

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/25/014060/W

I write in connection with your request for information dated 27/01/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Please provide me with information/documents recording the following:

- 1. the policy relating to cross-jurisdictional investigations. I am interested in how the force decides who will take ownership of an investigation and what each forces' role is.***
- 2. the policy relating to investigating crime. In particular, I am interested in whether the force primarily adheres to the principle that a crime should be investigated where it is committed.***
- 3. does the force investigate crimes if it is not committed in their force area but the suspect lives in their force area? If so, in what circumstances would the force do this? What policy dictates this.***
- 4. if a demonstrably false allegation is suspected during an investigation handled by GMP would GMP take ownership of the case if the suspect does not reside in their area but made the allegation to the force. What is the document/policy that dictates they would/would not investigate.***
- 5. what is the force's policy on investigating domestic abuse?***

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information and I can confirm some of the information requested is held by GMP.

Question 1 – 3

GMP follow the Home Office Counting Rules. The information you are requesting can be found in the public domain at the following link. Please see Section G – Location of Crimes.

[crime-recording-rules-for-frontline-officers-and-staff-2025_26-april-2025-update.pdf](#)

Question 4

GMP do not have a policy relevant to question 4.

Question 5

Please see attached GMPs Domestic Abuse Policy & Procedure.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires GMP, when refusing to provide such information (because this information is exempt) to provide you, the applicant, with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

Where redactions have been made within the attached documents, this information is exempt from disclosure by virtue of one of the following exemptions:

Section 40(2) Personal Information Section 31(1)(a)(b)(c) Law Enforcement

Section 40 is an absolute exemption with no requirement to complete a public interest test.

Section 31 is a prejudice based qualified exemption and therefore subject to a harm based public interest test.

Harm

To disclose the redacted information within the attached policy would compromise the efficient and effective conduct of the Force. Resulting in safety implications for the general public, consequently creating extra strain on police resources. Furthermore, disclosing such information has the potential to seriously undermine effective law enforcement and policing strategies. Therefore, GMP will not disclose information that would prejudice their ability to prevent or detect criminal activity or to protect the general public.

Factors in favour of disclosure

Disclosure of the redacted information would allow for a better informed public, helping to build public confidence and allow a better understanding of how GMP deals with Domestic Abuse. This would encourage more individuals to speak to the police, whether this be as a victim or witness to an incident, in order to assist with an investigation or provide intelligence.

Factors against disclosure

To disclose the redacted information would hinder the prevention or detection of crime, the efficient and effective conduct of the force and has the potential to seriously undermine the effective law enforcement tactics in how GMP deals with specific crime types, allowing potential offenders to use the information to their advantage. The safety of the public is of paramount importance to the force and a major part of the policing purpose, therefore GMP will not disclose information which could risk lives or be detrimental to our policing role of enforcing the law and protecting people.

Balancing Test

When balancing the public interest test GMP has to consider whether the information should be released into the public domain. Arguments need to be weighed against each other. The most persuasive reason for disclosing the information would be the enhanced public confidence. This needs to be weighed against the strongest reason for non-disclosure, which, in this case is the fact that individuals may be placed at risk, as potential offenders may use this information to their advantage in order to adapt the way in which they commit such criminal acts.

Therefore, having considered all the factors for and against disclosure it is the decision, at this time, to maintain the above exemption and withhold the redacted information from disclosure.



GREATER MANCHESTER
POLICE

Domestic Abuse

Policy & Procedure

August 2024

DATE THIS VERSION IMPLEMENTED: 14 August 2024

DATE NEXT REVIEW IS DUE: 29 April 2025

CHIEF OFFICER SPONSOR:

OWNER:

AUTHOR:

APPROVED BY:

GOVERNMENT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION: Official-Sensitive

IS THE POLICY & PROCEDURE NEW OR REVISED? Revised

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1. Policy statement

Tackling domestic abuse (DA) is a priority for Greater Manchester Police (GMP). We recognise the devastating impact that all forms of DA have on the quality of life for victims, families and children. GMP is committed to working with communities and partners to understand individual issues, encourage early help and identify interventions for support.

GMP approaches incidents of DA with empathy and compassion. We take a victim-centred approach, applying the College of Policing Code of Ethics and values to protect the most vulnerable people within Greater Manchester.

The requirement to undertake safeguarding actions incurs obligations at every stage of the police response. These obligations begin from receipt of the initial concern or incident, throughout the whole process of investigation, and extend to the multi-agency process for safeguarding adults and children at risk.

Failure to deal with DA, whether by investigation, arrest of the suspect, or other appropriate police action may leave a victim or others at risk of serious harm, injury or even homicide.

GMP recognises that a trauma-informed approach to policing DA enables better understanding of behaviours that victims of abuse may display and helps us to respond more effectively to their needs. GMP will ensure that all frontline officers are given training to help them to recognise and manage the effects of domestic and sexual trauma on survivor via DA Matters training.

While DA affects both males and females, GMP recognises that women and girls remain disproportionately affected in terms of frequency and severity. We will continue to ensure that the service offered is victim/survivor focused and protects women and girls from further abuse. In addition, we recognise that further work is needed to truly understand the extent of DA within different communities, including under reporting by male victims, LGBTQ+ community, black and minority ethnic community and other minorities.

GMP is committed to supporting officers and staff so that they can correctly identify DA; take effective safeguarding steps; conduct a thorough investigation; use criminal justice and other appropriate avenues to address DA and crucially, ensure that support is given to victims and those affected.

1.1 Aims

This policy will ensure that all police officers and staff understand their individual roles and responsibilities when tackling DA so that the organisation collectively reduces the likelihood of harm to victims and provides the best possible outcomes for those who have been affected. This will be achieved by:

- Frontline professionals adopting a multi-agency approach to identifying the risk of DA from the outset.
- Encouraging people to report DA incidents, giving victims confidence in GMP by dealing empathetically and diligently with criminal investigations and through providing access to support networks to keep them and their families safe.

- Taking appropriate action at all DA incidents to ensure that victims and their families are safeguarded. This includes offenders being challenged, held accountable for their actions and, where appropriate, brought to justice.
 - Protecting the lives and preserving the safety of all victims and others who may be at risk because of DA.
 - Referring victims to support services, including support for children who are affected by DA.
 - Ensuring appropriate supervision of the initial response and subsequent investigation.
 - Ensuring thorough investigations, including understanding the previous history of both the victim and perpetrator.
 - Recording all offences in line with [National Crime Recording Standards](#) and [Home Office Counting Rules](#).
 - Providing clear instructions, guidance and training to all officers and staff in the identification of DA cases and the level of risk they present.
 - Ensuring that all decisions are made in accordance with the [National Decision Model](#), [Authorised Professional Practice](#) and [Ten Risk Principles](#).
 - Taking advantage of all reporting and communication methods available to ensure victims find it as easy as possible to report DA.
 - Making full use of safeguarding opportunities and legislation to protect victims and witnesses (e.g. Domestic Violence Protection Order, Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme, restraining orders etc).
-

2. Scope

This policy and procedure applies to all police officers, police staff and volunteers within Greater Manchester Police.

3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1 District senior leadership team

- Provide visible leadership and clear operational priorities to support a victim-focused approach to DA; specifically ensuring that a professional, compassionate and supportive service is given at every stage of police-interaction.
- Represent GMP at a strategic level throughout multi-agency partnership working.
- Implement force policy to ensure a consistent approach to tackling DA.
- Drive performance improvements through effective governance, with support from Public Protection Division.
- Submit data as requested to the public protection governance unit.
- Analyse force data to identify repeat victims and implement effective measures for early intervention.
- Ensure risk assessments are quality assured and effective planning is in place to mitigate risk.
- Ensure that all staff attend DA training and development opportunities relevant to their role.
- Resolve district issues in relation to DA, including engagement with partners.
- Ensure effective supervision of all DA incidents.

- Embed an ethos of taking [positive action](#).
- Ensure effective management of DA perpetrators, including processes to minimise the risk of reoffending.
- Ensure Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPN) are applied for in every relevant case and that resources are allocated for victim engagement visits and perpetrator compliance checks. Check the [Domestic Violence Protection Notices and Orders Procedure](#) for full details, and improve and maintain quality and standards.
- Ensure thorough investigation and prosecution of DA incidents.
- Embed an investigative principle that understanding, recognising and responding to all types of vulnerability, including DA, is everyone's business.
- Ensure local no further action (NFA) decisions are checked by an inspector who will consider whether to proceed on the basis of an evidence led prosecution, and that the rationale is recorded on the crime event within PoliceWorks.
- Ensure that Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) NFA decisions are reviewed and challenged where appropriate.
- Ensure priority is given to locating and arresting outstanding perpetrators of DA and escalating via the force pacesetter meeting where appropriate.

3.2 Public protection governance unit

- Support DA delivery with a dedicated detective superintendent.
- Provide a forcewide strategic delivery plan for DA and honour based abuse (HBA).
- Take strategic responsibility for GMP's Domestic Abuse Policy and Procedure.
- Provide leadership and direction for districts dealing with DA.
- Provide the link between district tactical delivery, strategic oversight and governance at chief officer level.
- Review force performance and collate statistics on behalf of the force.
- Work with People and Development Branch to ensure all officers and staff have received relevant and adequate training to deal with DA.
- Engage with partners at a strategic level and work in partnership with Greater Manchester Combined Authority to improve outcomes for victims of DA.

3.3 Force domestic abuse coordinator

- Oversee the multi-agency risk assessment conference (MARAC) process from a GMP perspective and maintain the [MARAC operating protocol](#).
- Undertake regular quality assurance checks to maintain the standard of MARAC.
- Monitor use of DVPN/Os and report data to relevant strategic boards.
- Assist in the development of policies and reviews.
- Develop and maintain positive, collaborative working relationships with partner agencies across Greater Manchester.
- Oversee and monitor the timely and accurate provision of management information, key performance data and statistics to inform decision making within the force.
- Set and promote best practice and champion excellence in all approaches through engaging with senior internal and external stakeholders.
- Provide regular updates to districts and branches in relation to policy.
- Coordinate recommendations from statutory reviews, develop action plans and oversee implementation of recommendations.
- Implement accepted recommendations relating to DA from His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services inspections, Coroner's inquests, Regulation 28 notices and other internal or external reviews.

- Monitor areas for development and liaise with People and Development Branch on training delivery in identified areas.
 - Collaborate with the multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) strategy manager to ensure effective overlap between the MARAC and MAPPA processes.
-

4. Terms and definitions

4.1 Acronyms

APP	Authorised Professional Practice (College of Policing)
CAP	Care plan
CPS	Crown Prosecution Service
DA	Domestic abuse
DAB	Domestic abuse event
DASH	Domestic Abuse, Stalking, Harassment and Honour-Based Violence
DVDS	Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme
DVPN	Domestic Violence Protection Notice
DVPO	Domestic Violence Protection Order
FELU	Firearms and Explosives Licensing Unit
FGM	Female genital mutilation
FCCO	Force Contact, Crime and Operations Branch
FM	Forced Marriage
GMCA	Greater Manchester Combined Authority
GMP	Greater Manchester Police
HBA	Honour based abuse
HOCR	Home Office Crime Recording Rules
IDVA	Independent domestic violence advisor
iOPS	Integrated Operational Policing System
MAPPA	Multi-agency public protection arrangements
MARAC	Multi-agency risk assessment conference
MASH	Multi-agency safeguarding hub
NDM	National Decision Model
NCRS	National Crime Recording Standards
NFA	No further action
NPCC	National Police Chiefs' Council
OIC	Officer in the case
RARA	Remove the risk, avoid the risk, reduce the risk, accept the risk
VCOP	Victims' Code of Practice

4.2 Domestic abuse

The [Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#) defines DA as a behaviour by a person towards another and:

- both persons are each aged 16 or over and are personally connected, and
- the behaviour is abusive.

Where perpetrators direct their conduct towards another person (e.g. the child of a victim), this is also considered to be abusive behaviour towards the victim.

Behaviour is considered abusive if it consists of any of the following:

- physical or sexual abuse
- violent or threatening words or actions
- controlling or coercive activity
- economic abuse (any behaviour that has a substantial adverse effect on a victim's ability to acquire, use, or maintain money or other property, goods or services)
- psychological, emotional, or other abuse.

4.2.1 Personally connected

The [Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#) seeks to ensure that opportunities for identifying DA are not limited and includes where people:

- are, or have been, married to each other
- are, or have been, civil partners of each other
- have agreed to marry one another (whether or not the agreement has been terminated)
- have entered into a civil partnership agreement (whether or not the agreement has been terminated)
- are, or have been, in an intimate personal relationship with each other
- is a child in relation to whom they each have a parental relationship
- are relatives.

DA and HBA incidents involving 16 and 17 year olds will be recorded on iOPS by creating a domestic abuse event (DAB). This will ensure that the domestic abuse, stalking and honour based violence (DASH) risk assessment can be completed. However, these cases may also be considered child protection matters, and relevant procedures should be followed under the [Children Act 1989 Section 17](#) and [Section 47](#) (child in need or child at risk of significant harm). Incidents involving victims of forced marriage, HBA or female genital mutilation (FMG), who are under 18, will also be considered a child protection matter.

[Section 63 \(1\)](#) states that a 'relative' in relation to a person means:

- a) the father, mother, stepfather, stepmother, son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, grandmother, grandfather, grandson or granddaughter of that person's spouse, former spouse, civil partner or former civil partner, or
- b) the brother, sister, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew or first cousin (full blood or half-blood or by marriage or civil partnership) of that person or of that person's spouse, former spouse, civil partner or former civil partner.

For further information, refer to [APP domestic abuse](#).

4.3 Positive action

Police officers have a positive obligation to take reasonable action, within their lawful powers, to safeguard the above rights of victims and children. This includes the duty to:

- make an arrest where it is necessary and proportionate to do (refer to [APP detention and custody](#))
- protect the victim and vulnerable people within the household from harm.

The requirement for positive action in DA cases results in obligations at every stage of the police response, from initial deployment to first response, the investigation process and the protection and care of victims and children. Action at all stages should ensure:

- effective protection of victims and children
- criminal proceedings where appropriate

- effective perpetrator management where criminal proceedings are not possible or unsuitable.

For further information on positive action, refer to [APP arrest and other positive approaches](#) [College of Policing APP](#), [Appendix B public protection tactical menu of options](#) and [Appendix C investigating DA and managing risk](#) for practical examples.

4.4 Children as victims in their own right

Under [Section 3\(2\)](#) of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, a child is a victim of DA **for the purposes of the Act** where they see, hear or experience the effects of DA and are related to either a perpetrator or victim, or either individual has parental responsibility for the child.

The 2021 Act does not create a specific offence of DA against a child and there are no requirements to record a crime on the basis of a child either being present or residing at the location of the abuse. Officers should consider whether other crimes are disclosed in relation to the treatment or exposure to harm, which may be experienced by the child during the DA, and these are outlined later.

The purpose of the Act is to ensure that children's needs are appropriately assessed and met. **Existing safeguarding, risk assessment and referrals processes should be followed** to ensure children receive support and remain visible in the multi-agency response. Statutory guidance in [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#) sets out expectations for inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, including those experiencing DA.

4.5 Stalking or harassment

Stalking and/or harassment are clear indicators of future harm to a victim and can be very common in DA incidents. Such offences are 'as well as crimes' and must be recorded in addition to any other offences under National Crime Recording Standards (NCRS) and Home Office Crime Recording Rules (HOCR). Refer to the [Crime Guide](#) for advice.

Stalking is a pattern of fixated, obsessive, unwanted and repeated behaviour which is intrusive and causes fear of violence or serious alarm or distress. Stalking tends to focus on a person rather than a dispute.

Harassment is unwanted behaviour which can be found offensive, or which makes the victim feel intimidated or humiliated. Harassment tends to focus on a dispute rather than a fixation with a person.

For further information, refer to the [Stalking and Harassment Policy and Procedure](#) and [APP stalking or harassment](#).

4.6 Controlling or coercive behaviour

Controlling or coercive behaviour in an intimate or family relationship is a particularly insidious form of DA, constituted by behaviour on the part of the perpetrator which takes place repeatedly or continuously. Controlling or coercive behaviour is often committed in conjunction with other forms of DA as part of a wider pattern of abuse, including violent, sexual or economic abuse. The statutory definition of DA contained within the Domestic Abuse Act explicitly recognises controlling or coercive behaviour as a form DA.

As of 5 April 2023, the Domestic Abuse Act amended the definition of 'personally connected' which removed the 'living together' requirement for the controlling or coercive behaviour offence contained in the Serious Crime Act 2015. As such, the controlling or coercive behaviour offence now applies to intimate partners, ex-partners or family members, regardless of whether the victim and perpetrator live together. This ensures that post-separation DA and familial DA is accounted for when the victim and perpetrator do not live together.

For further information, refer to [statutory guidance on controlling or coercive behaviour](#).

Acts of controlling or coercive behaviour may include isolating a person from their family or friends; monitoring a person's time; using spyware to monitor a person; taking control over aspects of a person's everyday life (such as where they can go, who they can see, what they can wear and when they can sleep); repeatedly putting a person down (such as telling them they are worthless); threats to harm a child, and many other types of behaviour.

Given the complexity around this type of abuse, police officers and staff are encouraged to liaise with supervisors regarding investigation plans. Supervisors must be intrusive with their staff, ensuring that investigations are victim-focused, and that evidence led prosecutions are always considered where possible.

Offences of controlling or coercive behaviour can be supplementary crimes, accompanying other more frequently reported offences (e.g. assault) and must be recorded in addition to any other offences under NCRS/HOCR. Refer to the [Crime Guide](#) for advice.

4.7 Honour based abuse and female genital mutilation

There is currently no statutory definition of honour based abuse (HBA). For further information, refer to the [Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence Policy and Procedure](#) and [APP HBA](#). For FMG, refer to the [Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence Policy and Procedure](#) and [APP female genital mutilation](#).

4.8 DASH

The domestic abuse, stalking and honour based violence (DASH) framework is used by professionals to identify and assess the risk to victims of DA. It consists of a series of questions on a scoring system although professional judgement or other factors (e.g. previous incidents or escalation) can also be used when making decisions on risk. Refer to [Appendix J DASH guidance](#).

4.9 RARA - remove, avoid, reduce, accept

RARA is a risk management tool which helps officers to record their decision-making rationale. The principles of removing, avoiding, reducing or accepting risk should be recorded in each DAB on PoliceWorks. Refer to [Appendix C](#) for further strategies on managing risk.

4.10 Operation Encompass

[Operation Encompass](#) is a statutory process¹ that connects police with schools to ensure better outcomes for children who are subject or witness to police-attended incidents of DA.

¹ [Victims and Prisoners Act 2024 Section 49A](#) – Arrangements to notify schools etc.

Police forces must share Operation Encompass notifications with schools to ensure that those in educational services can monitor and intervene to help children who have witnessed DA where appropriate.

For further advice, refer to the [website](#) or contact the district safeguarding team.

4.11 Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme

Consider the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) for every incident where an offender has a history of DA with previous partners or family members. For further information, refer to the [DVDS Procedure](#).

4.12 Domestic Violence Protection Notices and Orders

A Domestic Violence Protection Notice and Order (DVPN/O) is a civil order that provides emergency protection to a victim of DA by placing prohibitions and restrictions on the perpetrator. For further information, refer to the [DVPN/O Procedure](#).

4.13 Multi agency risk assessment conference (MARAC)

MARAC is a review meeting for the highest risk victims of DA. It works on the basis that initial safeguarding activity has already been undertaken. This activity is then reviewed together with information from the victim's independent domestic violence advisor (IDVA). Agencies present at MARAC will share any information they have and the MARAC chair will summarise the current risk posed. Actions are volunteered by individual agencies on the understanding that those actions will be undertaken.

The role of MARAC is to facilitate, monitor and evaluate effective information sharing to enable appropriate actions to be undertaken to increase public safety. The IDVA provides bespoke support and advice to victims, from safety planning through to support at court.

For further information on IDVAs, refer to [APP victim safety and support](#).

For MARAC, refer to the [Greater Manchester MARAC operating protocol](#).

4.14 Multi agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA)

MAPPA is a statutory framework established by [Sections 325-327 of Criminal Justice Act 2003](#). It requires the Responsible Authority to work in collaboration with Duty to Cooperate and Associate Agency partners to manage the most serious violent and sexual offenders in the community.

The Responsible Authority is the combined resource of the police, prison and probation services. All other partnership agencies and organisations fall under either the Duty to Cooperate or Associate Agency status.

There are four categories of MAPPA offender, managed across three levels. [MAPPA Guidance](#) states that:

- all automatic MAPPA cases where DA or stalking may be an issue should be identified
- all other cases where DA or stalking may be an issue should be considered for referral to MAPPA category 3 by the lead agency.

The [guidance](#) includes information on expected levels and standards of interaction between MAPPA and MARAC processes. They are intended to complement each other and increase

the efficacy of public protection and the joined-up approach to risk management and mitigation.

4.15 Repeat, serial and high risk victims and perpetrators

GMP definition	PoliceWorks information marker
Repeat victim If via any source, GMP is made aware that a victim has suffered more than one incident of DA involving the same perpetrator, they will be considered a repeat victim. A single initial report referencing that a victim has suffered multiple incidents of abuse may also be treated as a repeat victim.	Domestic Abuse Repeat Victim
Repeat perpetrator Someone who has been reported to the police as having committed or threatened DA on more than one occasion involving the same victim will be considered a repeat perpetrator.	Domestic Abuse Repeat Perpetrator
Serial victim Someone who has been reported to the police as having suffered DA from two or more perpetrators. This includes current or former intimate partners and family members.	Serial Domestic Abuse Victim
Serial perpetrator Someone who has been reported to the police as having committed or threatened DA against two or more victims. This includes current or former intimate partners and family members.	Domestic Abuse Serial Perpetrator <i>Consider DVDS.</i>
High risk victims and perpetrators If an incident is deemed to be high risk and is referred to MARAC, add an information marker to both the victim and perpetrator. Refer to Appendix I information markers for further information.	Domestic Abuse High Risk Victim/Perpetrator Include 2 year review date for further risk assessment.

4.16 Evidence led prosecutions

Where criminal offences have been committed, gathering evidence from all possible sources provides the best possible chance of supporting the victim(s). The stronger the overall prosecution, the less likely it is to be challenged, and in the event that is, the prosecution is less likely to rely solely on victim testimony.

Investigating DA can be challenging, especially in cases where victims are unsupportive, or in cases involving coercive or controlling behaviour where abuse may be subtle and not immediately obvious.

An evidence led prosecution checklist has been developed with helpful prompts to consider. For further information, refer to [form 2122 evidence led prosecution checklist](#) and [APP investigative development](#).

4.17 Specialist domestic violence courts

A specialist domestic violence court is a magistrates' court where DA in custody remand cases or trials are heard by specially trained judges, magistrates and legal advisors who understand the dynamics of DA. This enables a consistent approach to bail, provides more effective case management and encourages early guilty pleas due to the improved processes in dealing with such cases. This approach is designed to provide a better service for victims.

4.18 Domestic homicide reviews

Domestic homicide reviews were established under Section 9 of the [Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004](#).

The aim of a review is to identify learning from the death of a person aged 16 or over which has or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect by:

- a) a person to whom they were related or were/had been in an intimate personal relationship, or
- b) a member of the same household.

[Statutory guidance](#) states that 'Where a victim took their own life (suicide) and the circumstances give rise to concern, for example it emerges that there was coercive controlling behaviour in the relationship, a review should be undertaken, even if a suspect is not charged with an offence or they are tried and acquitted'.

6. Associated documents

6.1 Legislation

[Care Act 2014](#)
[Children's Act 1989](#)
[Civil Protection Act 2007](#)
[Criminal Justice Act 2003](#)
[Data Protection Act 2018](#)
[Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#)
[Domestic Violence, Crime, and Victims Act 2004](#)
[Equality Act 2010](#)
[Family Law Act 1996](#)
[Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003](#)
[Freedom of Information Act 2000](#)
[Human Rights Act 1998](#)
[Mental Capacity Act 2005](#)
[Protection from Harassment Act 1997](#)
[Serious Crime Act 2015](#)
[UK GDPR](#)

6.2 GMP policy and procedure

[Adults at Risk Policy and Procedure](#)
[Body Worn Video Policy and Procedure](#)
[Domestic Abuse in the Workplace](#)
[Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme Procedure](#)
[DVPN/DVPO Procedure](#)
[Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence Policy and Procedure](#)
[Incident Response Policy and Procedure.](#)
[Missing and Absent Persons Policy and Procedure](#)
[Stalking and Harassment Policy and Procedure](#)

6.3 Other relevant codes and guidance

[Code of Practice for Victims of Crime](#)
[CPS and NPCC Joint Evidence Checklist](#)
[CPS Code](#)
[DPP Guidance on Charging](#)
[GMP and CPS Service Level Agreement \(SLA\)](#)
[MARAC Operating Protocol](#)
[NPCC Major Crime Investigation Manual 2021](#)
[Victims' Code of Practice](#)

7 Statutory compliance and consultation

7.1 Statutory compliance

7.1.1 Equality Act (2010)

Click [here](#) to view the Equality Impact Assessment.

State below whether chief officers agreed with the EIA, or selected a different outcome:

Date when EIA was approved	29/4/24
Summary discussions/considerations	Approved by the Head of Public Protection.

State below whether Chief Officers agreed with the EIA, or selected a different outcome:

Outcome	EIA recommended	Chief Officer Decision
Approve – no changes. The policy is robust and the evidence shows no potential for discrimination. All appropriate opportunities to advance equality and foster good relations between groups have been taken.	X	
Approve – subject to amends. Changes are required to remove barriers, better advance equality or mitigate potential effects. This should be done before the policy is implemented.		
Approve – continue with policy. Despite any adverse effect or missed opportunities to advance equality, provided that it does not unlawfully discriminate. The objective justification must be recorded.		
Reject – stop the policy. If there are adverse effects that are not justified and cannot be mitigated, or any unlawful discrimination.		

7.1.2 The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act (2018)

When processing personal data, GMP must discharge its obligations under the Data Protection Act 2018, which regulates the way in which organisations handle personal data. To reduce risk to the force and to those individuals whose data is held, it is vitally important that all officers and members of staff are aware of their responsibilities under the Act.

Personal information should only be processed for a legitimate policing purpose, or in support of such a purpose. The policing purposes are:

- Prevention and detection of crime.
- Apprehension and prosecution of offenders.
- Maintenance of law and order.

- Protection of life and property.
- Vetting and licensing.
- Public safety.
- Rendering assistance to members of the public in accordance with force policy.

This policy and procedure has been assessed for compliance issues by the Information Compliance and Records Management Unit (ICRMU), and is considered to be compliant with the legislation as there is a clear lawful basis for the processing of personal data and special category data. It should be read in conjunction with GMP's Data Protection Policy and guidance issued on the Data Protection Intranet pages.

For more information on Data Protection contact the ICRMU on ext. 61150 or 64297.

7.1.3 Freedom of Information Act (2000)

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 grants a general right of access to all types of recorded information held by public authorities.

As this Policy and Procedure document contains policing methods, some parts of it may not be suitable for disclosure. Requests for data will be assessed carefully by the Information Compliance and Records Management Unit considering the harm of disclosure and release into the public domain, in consultation with the Policy Owner.

7.2 Consultation

Department	Comments
IT	
Finance	
Human Resources	
Training	
Health & Safety	
Information Security	
Information Compliance	Reviewed 12/07/22 - minor additions made.
Force Control Centre	Reviewed February 2023 - minor amendment made following branch re-branding.
Professional Standards Branch	
Any other relevant operational business area.	
Domestic Abuse Partnership Board	

